

January 11, 2010

Haverford High School PTSA

Meeting Called By: 7pm by Brigitte Gdovin

Type of Meeting: January 2010 PTSA

Opening

Brigitte Gdovin

Meeting was called to order.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Spada

Due to technical issue – minutes from last meeting will be reviewed at February meeting.

Administrative Report

Dr. Jeff Nesbitt, Principal

There are a lot of things happening!!

- **Final Exams**

- HHS is still getting used to the changes in attendance during this time. There is a belief that if you have a quarter class and have a final project that you don't have to attend school during the time allotted for exams. This is NOT the case! Still getting kids to understand that they are required to come to school.

- **Course Selection**

- 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will have course selection night the February 3rd from 6:30 to 7:30pm.
- February 8th: 8th graders will come to the high school too – for same course selection night.
- Online – this is the third year for this process. 78% of the students can complete the process by themselves – there are checks in homeroom. There is still verification, of course!

- **Back to School II**

- Same night as Course Selection night – February 3rd – starting at 7:30pm.

- **E-Newsletter**

- First e-newsletter was sent out on Friday the 8th of January.
- Needed to sign-up for e-alerts.
- Newsletter is posted online (http://www.haverford.k12.pa.us/hhs/lib/hhs/HHS_Newsletter_January_2010.pdf).
- PDF is the format for now – think this is the best – attendees had no problem with this format.
- Looking for contributions from any school organization – just send an email – have coach or sponsor of organization to submit article.
- Published 1st Friday of each month.
- Newsletter -- calendar as well as upcoming events and activities.

- **Reminders**

- H1N1 – please remind students to “wash their hands”
- Technology policy – seeing students creeping in the hallways – please remind them that devices are to be used in classroom if teacher approved, and other technology zones (e.g. cafeteria).

- **T.V. Studio**

A video that was shown at the school board meeting last week was presented by Dr. Nesbitt.

- Mr. Buck and a student (Patrick ?) talked at length about the studio and its progression.
 - Administration has been very supportive – they have done a lot of school productions:
 - Showed videos -- timeline – on how they have progressed from learning the equipment and showing the improvements as they all have begun to understand how to use it all as there is a lot of equipment. Cooperative learning environment – nature of the beast – no one knows it all – learning together as they continue to do more and more productions.
 - Student involvement has grown!
 - Broadcasting twice a week.
 - Understanding that planning is required – talked about Halloween production and then how Christmas production (which didn't go as planned due to computer outage) – learning from mistakes – and there are lots of them – so they are learning a lot!
- H-Vision (Mr. Buck)
 - They are reaching different student populations.
 - Brings the school together!
 - There is cross training – H-Vision had defined roles – folks did the same things all the time. The new studio allows more students – all doing more and more roles.
 - Internships:
 - Looking for ways to work with organizations outside of school (maybe training classes)
 - May be a way to get underwriters for studio.
 - Patrick talked about maybe putting together a “video yearbook!”
 - Video of school year! Would need to be comprehensive – like the “paper” version.
 - Always looking for more students to get involved! Meets every day during homeroom – students whom are interested should come down and get involved. Many of the students are very excited and spend time before and after school.

- **QUESTIONS:**

- *Are there rebroadcasts?*
 - **Answer:** Yes. Goes to public television station. Want to get onto website and township site

Speaker

Ellen Fischer

Ellen noted that the presentation by Mr. Buck and Patrick as well as the video presentation spoke for itself. The T.V. studio has ignited enthusiasm. It took 91K to get this started and it will require additional monies to keep it going. They are looking to the PTSA and other PTO groups to dig into their pockets not only for the TV station but the Radio station as well. The Radio station has fallen onto some tough times!

Ellen noted that the 60th Anniversary event was she very inspiring – people from Florida and California attended. There was approximately 150 attendees. Many alumni noted that their involvement in the radio station had an impact on their career. Many shared stories of how the station allowed them to feel “connected” to the school.

At this time, the radio station is NOT live streaming. The school district does not have the money to fund this and is coming to the education foundation. Supporting creativity – seeing Patrick and his enthusiasm is wonderful!!!

Asking the PTSA to do the following:

1. Agree to send out foundation letters (email as understand there is no other way)
2. Consider a one-time gift of \$2500 & earmark \$1000 annually for radio and tv stations.

Faculty Report

Ms. Zeoli, HHS Faculty

- **NHS Gift Drive**
 - Went really well. This was in the homerooms – adopted a student.
- **Mrs. Ward**
 - Global Educators – have international students come here and listen to cultural experiences. This event was held in December. It went really well and will be aired on Channel 11 soon.
- **Breast Cancer Benefit**
 - Will be held at Wynnewood Lanes - \$25 by the 4th – bowl from 12 to 2
- **Math League**
 - There are tests each month. They are 30 minutes in length.
 - Tests for 10, 11, and 12th graders.
 - Based on scores can go to nationals.
 - Room 230 after school or during homeroom.
 - Students should see their math teacher.

Officer's Reports

Officers

- **Treasurer's Report (Jackie Petragnani)**
 - Reviewed Budget
 - Noted that she is still working with past Treasurer on some items.
 - Discussed Senior Parents donations – only 88 out of more than 400 senior families have donated to date.
 - It was noted that this was the first letter – usually see an upswing in donations the second time around – the first one is always around the holiday season which is very busy time.
 - Staff Appreciation – noted that the parents running this haven't spent the money as yet – so know that what is allocated will be used. They will be charged for lunch staff – there is a charge per staff per hour.
- **Vice President & Membership Chair (Meg Hagenbuch)**
- **Recording Secretary (Mary Spada)**
- **Corresponding Secretary (Donna Shelle)**
 - There were several deaths since November (last meeting)
 - It was noted that Donna would be given the list of who needs to be mailed cards.
- **Co-Presidents (Katrina Coleman and Brigitte Gdovin)**
 - Brigitte noted that a parent attending the meeting (Karen Branden) tonight wanted to discuss IMPACT (software program for concussion testing).
 - Karen discussed her son and an concussion that he had – is concerned that the school should be testing students.
 - Dr. Nesbitt noted that Karen did write to the school board – it needed to be reviewed. The district needs to determine costs, if this is the best software, HIPPA concerns, etc.
 - Mary Spada – noted that Penn uses this program and does test students at the beginning of the sports season. This software allows for a baseline which is then used to determine impact of concussion. It allows for a sports medicine

doctor to work with the trainers to ensure students should be cleared to return to sport activities.

- BOPS Meeting – January 26th
 - Expansion of music program – there will be more options.
 - Offering three (3) courses:
 - AP American Government
 - Digital Recording
 - Videography
- Haverford Hoopla – may NOT happen (March 5, 2010)
 - This event was a “pre-prom” party – a fashion show and vendors – showed the latest in styles; had modeling of prom gowns, tuxes, etc. Event also had raffles and prizes.
 - Judy noted that there was not enough involvement and she knew that it wasn’t going to happen as there just isn’t enough time to get it all together!!!

Committee Reports

- **Directory (Judy Donnelly)**
- **Community Scholarship (Kelly Maguire)**
 - Got the letter updated.
 - Working with Mike on Paypal
 - Still need to get checks to some students
 - Need to update the letter and site to ensure that students understand eligibility requirements – there was confusion.
 - Want to rename the scholarship – something such as Education Grant
 - PLUG for Relay for Life
 - Tomorrow night at the High School – West Commons - information meeting on event that will be held in June. It is a celebration of survivors. It is \$10 to register and participate in the event.
 - Thanks to the school district for allowing them to hold the informational event at school.
- **Staff Appreciation Luncheon (Katrina Coleman)**
 - Staff Appreciation luncheon is scheduled for 1/21/2010.
 - Asked for recipes on 3x5 cards – so staff/faculty know more about the dish.
 - May need to send another email due to time change – should be ready by 11:15 not 11:45.
- **Volunteer Coordinator (Mary Spada)**
- **IDC Representative**
- **BLAST (Judy and John Donnelly)**
 - John Henry Fundraiser raised a whopping \$67 dollars.
 - 88 families out of over 400 families donated thus far to BLAST
 - Received a mini-grant (just found out today) -- \$1000
 - February 20th – Hypnotist Fundraiser
 - Looking for volunteers
 - Promoting this event
 - Need volunteers – just not enough people – don’t even have enough to chair all the committees

Old Business

- **Website**
 - Mike said what his item could wait...

New Business

- **Ways and Means Committee**
 - Need to vote on two (2) financial issues:
 - Radio Station - \$600
 - Education Society - \$500 / walk

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30PM